17th December 1954]

now that his question refers to quarters in Government Estate, let him put a separate question specifically and I shall certainly give the answer."

*Sale of steamer ' V. O. Chidambaram '.*

*408 *Q.*—SRI P. RANGASWAMI REDDIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) where is the steamer ' V. O. Chidambaram ' now lying;

(*b*) whether it is in working condition;

(*c*) whether the Government have any financial interest in the said steamer; and if so, to what extent; and

(*d*) whether the Government have any proposal to sell it in auction?

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) The vessel has already been sold to a firm in Bombay.

" (*b*) Does not arise.

" (*c*) Yes, Sir. The Government had, on the security of the steamer and other unencumbered assets of the company, given a loan of Rs. 5,33,500 to the Swadeshi Steamship Company, Limited, Tuticorin, the then owners of the vessel, to be repaid in seven annual equated instalments of Rs. 76,215 each, besides interest, the first instalment being payable on 15th January 1953. The company have so far paid only the first instalment due on 15th January 1953 and the interest due up to 31st March 1953. After adjusting the sale-proceeds of ' V. O. Chidambaram, ' and other assets of the Company, the Company still owe the Government about 3 lakhs of rupees.

" (*d*) She has already been sold."

SRI P. RANGASWAMI REDDIAR :—" For how much amount was ' V. O. Chidambaram ' sold, to whom was it sold and how was it sold? Was it sold by private negotiations or by public auction or by calling for tenders? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" The highest offer received for the steamer was Rs. 1,50,000 from Jaswala & Co., Electrical Engineers, Bombay."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Is the Hon. Minister aware of the fact that the said company which has purchased the steamer has changed the name of the steamer? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" What has that to do with this question? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" I have no interest to follow the course of the steamer, Sir." (Laughter.)

[17th December 1954

11-30 a.m. SRI P. CHELLATHURAI :—"சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, 'வ. உ. சிதம்பரம்' என்ற பெயருள்ள கப்பல் ஏதாவது நிபர்தனையின்பேரில் விற்கப்பட்டிருக்குமானல், அந்தக் கப்பலை வாங்கிய கம்பெனியாரை 'வ. இ. சிதம்பரம்' என்ற பெயரை அந்தக் கப்பலுக்கு வைக்கவேண்டு மென்று அரசாங்கம் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுமா ?"

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—"அந்தக் கப்பல் விற்கப்பட்டு ரொம்ப நாட்கள் ஆகிவிட்டதால் இப்பொழுது அந்தக் கம்பெனியை, கனம் அங்கத்தினர் கேட்டுக் கொண்டுள்ளபடி, அரசாங்கம் கேட்க முடியாது என்று நினைக்கிறேன்."

SRI S. R. ARUMUGAM :—"தேசிய விடுதலைக்காக பாடுபட்ட மிகப் பெரிய தலைவரின் பெயர் வைத்த கப்பலை விற்கலாமா ? அதற்குப் பதில் அதே தூத்துக்குடியில் அவருடையபேரிலே ஒரு கப்பலை விடுவதற்கு சர்க்கார் ஏற்பாடு செய்யுமா ?"

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—"இப்போது அப்படி ஒன்றும் சொல்ல முடியாது. அந்த பெயரை வைத்தால் நஷ்டம் ஏற்பட்டுவிடுமோ என்ற சந்தேகம் இருக்கிறது."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN :—"Sir, may I know whether after adjusting the amount, there is any chance of recovering the balance due from the company?"

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—"Yes, the company has got some assets by way of outstandings due for collection and unpaid share capital and an Official Liquidator has been appointed. We may get *pro rata*."

SRI T. SHANMUGAM :—"சார், இந்த ஸ்டீமர்தானே முன்னொரு நாள் ராஜாஜி அவர்களால் தேங்காய் உடைத்து பழம் வைத்து கற்பூரம் ஏற்றி ஸ்டார்ட் செய்யப்பட்டது ?"

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—"I have no information."

SRI K. V. RAMASWAMI :—"கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, 'வ.உ. சிதம்பரம்' என்ற பெயரால் கப்பல் நடத்தினால் நஷ்டம் ஏற்படும் என்று கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் சொன்னார்கள். அப்படிச் சொல்லுவதற்கு ஏதாவது காரணம் உண்டா ?"

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—"அப்படி அந்தப் பெயர் வைத்தால் நஷ்டம் ஏற்படுமோ என்று சந்தேகப்பட்டு என்னுடைய சொந்த அபிப்பிராயத்தைச் சொன்னேன்."

SRI S. C. C. ANTHONY PILLAI :—"The Hon. Minister informed the House that this vessel was sold for a little over a lakh of rupees. Who was the officer, who advised the Government that a sum of Rs. 5 lakhs could be loaned to this company on pledging this particular vessel and whether this officer is the same person as the one who estimated the value of the lorries that were recently sold to Sri Ramnath Goenka?"

17th December 1954]

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" This has no bearing on the other transaction. As regards the first part of the supplementary question, a separate question may be put, as I have not got the necessary information on hand."

SRI A. GOVINDASAMY NAYAGAR :—" 'வ.உ. சிதம்பரம்' கப்பலை மாத்திரம் விற்றார்களா ? அல்லது அவருடைய பெயரையும் கப்பலுடன் சேர்த்து விற்றுவிட்டார்களா ? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" The hon. Member can very well infer the answer himself."

DR. K. B. MENON :—" Sir, since the vessel was named as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Sri V. O. Chidambaram Pillai and since that has been sold, will the Government consider perpetuating his memory in some other form? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" The Government have not perpetuated the memory of that gentleman. It was a private company. The Government had only granted a loan to the company."

*Allotment to Madras State under the $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent National Plan Loan, 1964.*

* 409 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) the amount collected so far in the State under the National Plan Loan ; and

(*b*) how much money is expected to be given to the Madras Government out of the total collections made in this State?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) According to the latest figures reported by the Reserve Bank of India, the total amount collected in this State under the $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent National Plan Loan, 1964, amounted to Rs. 7,57,07,400.

" (*b*) The Government of India have given a sum of Rs. 5 crores to this Government out of the proceeds of the National Plan Loan."

*Contributions to the National Plan Loan from Malabar.*

* 410 *Q.*—SRI K. MADHAVAN NAMBIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state the total amount collected so far under the National Plan Loan from Malabar?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" According to the latest figures furnished by the Reserve Bank, the total amount collected from Malabar for the National Plan Loan was Rs. 52,76,700."